

Sincerely Wrong
2022-06-26

Romans 9 30-33

What shall we say, then? That Gentiles who did not pursue righteousness have attained it, that is, a righteousness that is by faith; but that Israel who pursued a law that would lead to righteousness did not succeed in reaching that law. Why? Because they did not pursue it by faith, but as if it were based on works. They have stumbled over the stumbling stone, as it is written,

“Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”

Tom Gun: Maveric, Tom Cruise Scientologist/deity...Man is basically good, reincarnation, you are your own Savior

- in any country/culture/cult get eternal life/heaven through moral, religious, works
 - Many sincere religious/moral people are sincerely wrong.
- Salvation is only by grace alone, through faith alone in Jesus Christ alone.
 - Jesus Christ is stone of stumbling, rock of offense and only way of salvation.

God's promise to save His chosen did not fail because God is calling a people from Jews and Gentiles

- Gentiles did not receive covenant promises yet God in mercy included Gentiles in Abrahamic promises.
 - Foretold in Scripture and confirmed in history. majority of Romans 9:6-33 are Old Testament quotes. Romans 9:24-26

Hosea/Gomer illustrates God's faithful love to unfaithful nation. Paul applied to Gentiles

- God declare heathen Israelites as Gentiles and later His people, do same for Gentiles
- God promised to make those “not My people (Gentiles)” “My people” by His grace.
 - Hosea Chapter 1 is a message of doom, Chapter 2 is a word of hope.

Hosea prophesy of Gentiles and how they come to belief, and Isaiah: prophesy of Jews' unbelief. Romans 9:27-29, Isaiah 8:14 & 28:16

- Divine discipline (Babylonians) reduced Israel's #'s, divine grace preserved remnant.
 - if God was not merciful/faithful ALL Israel should have been wiped out by His judgment like Sodom and Gomorrah.

Gentiles attained righteousness without seeking it while religious Israel failed to attain it. Romans 9:30-33, Isaiah 64:6

- Gentiles had no Law to guide yet attain righteousness without seeking it (works)...by faith.
- Israel pursued righteousness through law-keeping (religious/works) so failed to attain it.

- Justification by faith in Jesus Christ alone became stumbling stone to Israel.
- Jews must be saved same way as Gentiles. How humbling!
 - Gospel inherently offends because it confronts our sinful pride.

Underestimate our own sin (mistakes) and cost of salvation. Minimize judgement.

- Trust own good works/religious activity to satisfy God's demand for righteousness.
 - God does not grade on curve....pass/fail and to pass must have 100% perfect righteousness.
 - One sin disqualifies no matter the counterbalance of good works.

Jesus is the only one with perfect righteousness so salvation is only through Jesus' imputed righteousness to us. Genesis 15:6

- Any other way results in stumbling over Jesus, resulting in judgment/condemnation.

fallen human nature (pride) and every other religion in the world teaches the wrong way to God, usually by some sort of "works/morality". Romans 10:1-4, 14-15, John 14:6

- Faith in Jesus Christ as Savior *ends* futile quest for righteousness through religion, work, moral.
 - Jesus is either your stumbling stone, rock of offense or way of salvation.

Many very sincere, religious, moral people (family, neighbors, friends, co-work) miss salvation because their zeal is not in accordance with knowledge of truth of gospel.

- Let Paul's response to so many lost be yours....believed in election/predestination but knew God's sovereignty compatible with man's responsibility; not contradictory.
 - God's sovereign plan includes prayer and sharing the gospel to the lost.

Election does not negate the need to pray for salvation of lost. Daniel 9:2-3, Matthew 5:44

- Don't assume religious friends/relatives are saved but pray for their salvation.
 - Pray especially for salvation of those who have been unkind to you.....pray!!